

kin, and think it a proper case for assistance from the county wherein the said habitual drunkard resides, or Baltimore city, if he resides therein.

M. & C. C. of Balto. v. Keeley Institute, 81 Md. 113.

1894, ch. 247.

47B. When such petition is filed, any judge of the circuit court referred to in section 47 A, if satisfied from examination that the facts set forth in the petition are true, and that the said drunkard has been a resident of the county or of Baltimore city for six months next preceding the application, and that such drunkard of his own free will desires to take such treatment, shall send such habitual drunkard to some institution for the cure of drunkenness; provided, said institution is located in the State of Maryland, and that the managers of such institution will agree to treat such patient for a sum not to exceed one hundred dollars; but such court shall not be compelled to send such habitual drunkard to any institution making a lower bid than the sum herein specified, unless in their judgment the best interest of such drunkard shall be promoted thereby; and the said judge of the circuit court shall thereupon make an order that the expense of such treatment be paid out of the treasury of the county or the city of Baltimore, as the case may be, in the same manner that other claims against such county or city of Baltimore for the administration of justice are paid; provided, that no county or the city of Baltimore shall be required to send the same habitual drunkard to any institution for the medical treatment of drunkenness a second time at its expense.

Ibid.

47 c. The provisions of the two preceding sections shall not be at any time construed as in any way abrogating, limiting or abolishing the powers of judges of the circuit courts under section 47.

Ibid.

47 D. The officers of whatever institutions may be designated for the treatment of the habitual drunkards, payment for whose cure is provided by section 47B, shall become sworn officers of the court committing said habitual drunkards to their care, and shall